Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 073007 ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 IGA-02 /065 R

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P 021504Z APR 77 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY LA PAZ PRIORITY INFO AMEMBASSY MEXICO PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PINT, SHUM, PORG, BL

SUBJECT: CONSTANTINO LEMA AND US SUPPORT FOR BOLIVIAN CANDIDATE, OSCAR ARZE QUINTANILLA, FOR DIRECTOR OF THE INTER-AMERICAN INDIAN INSTITUTE (IAII)

1. APPROXIMATELY TWO WEEKS AGO, USOAS ORALLY INFORMED BOLIVIAN OAS AMBASSADOR ORTIZ SANZ OF USG INTENTION TO SUPPORT THEIR CANDIDATE, DR. ARZE, FOR DIRECTOR OF THE IAII IN THE ELECTION THE INSTITUTE'S DIRECTING COUNCIL SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 4, 1977 IN MEXICO. HOWEVER, ON RECEIPT OF INFORMATION RE CONTINUED DETENTION OF BOLIVIAN NATIONAL LEMA, AND WHEN EMBASSY LA PAZ REPORTED NO SPECIFIC CHARGES AGAINST LEMA, USOAS WITHHELD CONFIRMATION OF SUPPORT FOR ARZE BECAUSE OF THE ADMINISTRATION'S STRONG STAND AND DESIRE FOR POSITIVE ACTION IN THE FIELD LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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2. ON MARCH 25, 1977 ORTIZ SANZ WAS MADE AWARE OF THE DEPARTMENT'S CONCERN OVER THE LEMA MATTER AND HE WAS TOLD THAT IT WOULD BE USEFUL IF SITUATION OF LEMA COULD BE CLARIFIED. ORTIZ SANZ PROMISED TO PASS ON TO APPROPRIATE GOB AUTHORITIES DEPARTMENT'S CONCERN AND NOTIFY USOAS OF

REPLY.

- 3. DEPARTMENT HAS TAKEN NOTE OF SANTIAGO LOU 2384 QUOTING NORWEGIAN AMBASSADOR NILSEN TO THE EFFECT THAT QUOTE LEMA WOULD BE SET FREE SOMETIME DURING THIS PRESENT WEEK. UNQUOTE. SINCE WE HAVE ACHIEVED OUR AIM OF FOCUSING GOB ATTENTION ON LEMA CASE AS IT BEARS ON ELECTIONS APRIL 4 IN INDIAN INSTITUTE, AND INASMUCH AS ARZE IS BETTER QUALIFIED THAN THE SALVADOREAN CANDIDATE, THE DEPARTMENT WILL AUTHORIZE USREP IN THE DIRECTING COUNCIL TO VOTE FOR ARZE.
- 4. DEPARTMENT WILL APPRECIATE REPORT FROM EMBASSY LA PAZ WHEN LEMA IS RELEASED. CHRISTOPHER

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TAGS: PINT, SHUM, PORG, BL, IAII, (ARZE QUINTANILLA, OSCAR)

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